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Agenda item 43

Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)**Note verbale dated 5 June 2017 from the Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

The Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations, in its capacity as President Pro Tempore of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), has the honour to address you in reference to the fifth CELAC Summit, held in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, on 25 January 2017.

On that occasion, the Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean agreed to dedicate a paragraph of the Political Declaration of Punta Cana to the question of the Malvinas Islands and to issue a special declaration on that matter.

In paragraph 54 of the Political Declaration of Punta Cana, the Heads of State and Government of CELAC:

“Reiterate their support in the strongest terms for the legitimate rights of the Argentine Republic in the sovereignty dispute over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas, as well as the abiding interest in the peaceful and negotiated settlement of that dispute, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2065 (XX) and subsequent resolutions on the question of the Malvinas Islands adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee on decolonization”.

The Heads of State and Government of CELAC also adopted the “Special declaration on the question of the Malvinas Islands” (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations, in its capacity as President Pro Tempore of CELAC, and at the request of the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations, requests that this letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session under agenda item 43, concerning the question of the Malvinas Islands.



Annex to the note verbale dated 5 June 2017 from the Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Special declaration on the question of the Malvinas Islands

The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, on the occasion of the fifth Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), on 25 January 2017:

1. Reiterate their support in the strongest terms for the legitimate rights of the Argentine Republic in the sovereignty dispute over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas, as well as the abiding interest of the countries of the region in the resumption of negotiations between the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in order to find, as soon as possible, a peaceful and definitive solution to the dispute, in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 2065 (XX) and other relevant resolutions of that body and of the Organization of American States, as expressed by them in previous declarations of the Rio Group and the Latin American and Caribbean Summit on Integration and Development, in particular the Declaration of the Latin American and Caribbean Unity Summit, held in Riviera Maya, Mexico, on 23 February 2010, which are part of the historical heritage of CELAC;
2. In this context, the Heads of State and Government of CELAC entrust the President Pro Tempore to request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to renew his efforts to carry out the mission of good offices entrusted to him by the General Assembly through successive resolutions, with a view to achieving the resumption of negotiations aimed at finding, as soon as possible, a peaceful solution to the above-mentioned dispute, and to inform them of the progress made in the fulfilment of that mission;
3. Furthermore, they reiterate the importance of observing United Nations General Assembly resolution 31/49, which calls upon the two parties to refrain from taking decisions that would imply introducing unilateral modifications in the situation while the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas are going through the process recommended by the General Assembly;
4. They highlight the full readiness of the Argentine Government to establish mechanisms for the resumption of dialogue, in order to find a definitive solution to the sovereignty dispute.

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic,
25 January 2017